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TI N-Substituted-.alpha.-pyrrolidinone

IN Uchiyama, Hiroshi; Ozawa, Shuji

PA Teijin Ltd.

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AB N-Methyl-(I) and -ethylpyrrolidinones were prepd. by treating .gamma.-butyrolactone (II) with H<sub>2</sub>NMe or H<sub>2</sub>NEt, resp. followed by cyclization in the presence of Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, silica, silica-Mg, or silica-Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> catalyst. E.g., HO(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>3</sub>CONHMe, obtained from 25.8 g II and 27.2 g 40% H<sub>2</sub>NMe (aq.), was contacted for 25 sec on a 3 cm Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> column heated at 270.degree. to give 27.6 g I.

IC C07D; B01J

DT Patent

LA Japanese